

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,909
Supplemental Response dated September 30, 2003

REMARKS

As indicated above, this is a Supplement to the Response filed on September 4, 2003 in which the applicants submitted arguments against the rejection of claims 1 - 3 under 35 USC 103(a) based on Ahroni in view of Yamamoto. The applicants respectfully submit that the Response filed September 4, 2003 and this Supplemental Response are fully responsive to the Office Action dated June 4, 2003.

The applicants respectfully submit that the applicants' invention is distinguishable over the teachings of the references in the fixing of cables when pressure contact terminals are connected with the cables. In support thereof, in, e.g., line 24, pages 30 - 31 of the applicants' specification, "the positioning portion is formed with the electric wire setting portions 6a." In lines 24 and 25, page 35 , a pair of the pressure contact blade receiving grooves 6b are provided with a pair of wire fixing portions 6h to fix the cables 4a, 4a. In line 26, page 55 through line 3, page 56 of the applicants' specification, the number of guide grooves 7e as the same number of the cables 4a, 4a, as shown in the applicants' Figure 4, is provided at even intervals on a top side of the guide plate 7d to fix the cables 4a, 4a in a row. Other connectors disclosed by the references have only a guide for cables. Such guide, however, cannot fix the cable when starting to press contact terminals on the

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,909
Supplemental Response dated September 30, 2003

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 01 2003

OFFICIAL

cable. All of the guides will finally position the cables when the contact terminals are connected completely with the cables.

Based on the above, and the arguments submitted in the earlier Response, the withdrawal of the outstanding obviousness rejection under 35 USC 103 based on Ahroni in view of Yamamoto is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

In the event that any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

Mel R. Quintos
Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/lrj/ipc

Atty. Docket No. 011524
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE